



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

NEWS RELEASE

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CT STATE OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO MONITOR EFFECTS OF HURRICANE ISABEL

(HARTFORD, CT) – State officials at the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Hartford will continue to monitor the storm and its effects throughout the day.

The CT Office of Emergency (OEM) maintains the state emergency plans for natural and man-made disasters and participates in emergency drills and exercises on a regular basis. “Hurricane Isabel provided us with a great opportunity to exercise our plans and provide training to individuals that haven’t worked in the emergency operations center in the past,” said Kerry Flaherty, Director of the Office of Emergency Management. “We took an event that could have been a catastrophic event and turned it into a training event. We brought in Fire Service representatives and the Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) and the Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) of the CT Division of Homeland Security to be part of the state solution in the future.”

“Even though Connecticut didn’t get hit hard by Hurricane Isabel it serves as a good reminder to all citizens that we should be prepared for disasters,” said Flaherty. “Emergency planning starts with individuals and families. All members of a family should be aware of what they would do in an emergency, where they would go and how they would be reunited if they are separated.”

Family emergency plans should include a disaster kit. The kit should include flashlights, extra batteries, a battery operated radio, a first aid kit, a non-electric can opener and medicines including prescriptions. People should have a three-day supply of food and water. In the event people need to evacuate people should bring with them extra cash, credit cards and any important papers such as insurance policies. Pets should be included in the family emergency plan. For health and safety reasons pets cannot be brought into shelters.

Emergency preparedness planning information can be found on the CT Office of Emergency Management website at www.ct.gov/oem. During emergency operation center activations, OEM will use this website to disseminate up-to-date emergency information to the general public.